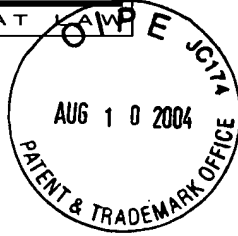


HOWREY
SIMON
ARNOLD
& WHITE

HOWREY
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

August 10, 2004



Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA. 22313-1450

1299 PENNSYLVANIA AVE., NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20004-2402
PHONE 202.783.0800
FAX 202.383.6610
A LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP

MICHAEL J. BELL
PARTNER
202.383.6500
bellm@howrey.com

Mail Stop: RCE

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application No. 10/604,157
Filed: June 28, 2003; Confirmation No.: 1156
For: ***Fiber Splice Tray For Use In Optical
Fiber Hydrophone Array***
Inventors: COOKE, *et al.*
Attorney Docket No.: 02708.0161.NPUS00 - Formerly 012720-55 (New)

Sir:

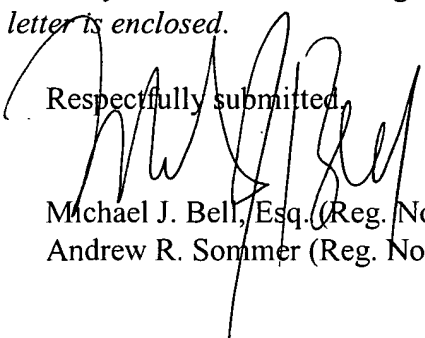
The following documents are forwarded for appropriate action by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office:

1. Transmittal Letter to the Commissioner for Patents (*in duplicate*);
2. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal (PTO/SB/03) (*in duplicate*);
3. Information Disclosure Statement and PTO-SB/08a with five (5) references;
4. Our Check in the amount of \$770.00; and
5. One Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038. If extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those otherwise provided for herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned, and any fees therefor are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038. *A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.*

Respectfully submitted,


Michael J. Bell, Esq. (Reg. No. 39,604)
Andrew R. Sommer (Reg. No. 53,932)

Enclosures